



# 105th Military Police BN

## BN CDR's MESSAGE—LTC T. Paul Houser

I want to take this opportunity to welcome the 732nd ESFS to Camp Bucca. The unit reported here with 380 USAF Security Police with the mission of staffing the Theatre Internment Facility (TIF). In addition to this responsibility, LTC Joe Ramano was asked to assume responsibility for the Camp Bucca Force protection mission. LTC Ramano and his team accepted this responsibility and are committed to setting the standard for force protection in the theatre. The 732nd brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and resources to the fight and they are critical to our success and security here.

This battalion size element was assembled with airmen from 17 different USAF bases and is the first unit of its kind. The unit deployed to Fort Lewis, Washington where they received the same detainee operations training as U.S. Army units deploying to this theatre. **AIR POWER!**

I also want to offer a special welcome to Bravo Battery, 2/111th FA. The unit comes to Camp Bucca from the Virginia National Guard with the primary mission of force protection and convoy escort. However, the soldiers also received detainee operations training at Fort Dix, New Jersey and can perform this mission inside the Theatre Internment Facility if needed. Two of the unit's platoons were chopped to Baghdad Central Correctional Facility which means that Major Patrick and First Sergeant Steiner will frequently be on road visiting and assessing the welfare and performance of those soldiers.

The 2/111th continues the trend of FA units deploying to perform a traditional Military Police mission. As "Red Legs" clearly these soldiers would rather be placing steel on enemy targets so we certainly appreciate their willingness to

"adjust fire" and deploy in support of the TIF and force protection requirements.

Last and certainly not least, a big welcome to MSG James and SFC Leverenz. These two NCO's hold the 31E MOS and are our resident experts for detainee operations. In addition to manning key rated positions in the TIF chain of command, they also provide quality assurance oversight and assist with doctrine development. Their presence here is critical to the success of the TIF operations, the transition to a corrections modality, and the development of enduring detainee operations doctrine in this and future theatres.

HOUSER

## 105th Military Police BN

### BN CSM's MESSAGE — CSM Lonnie Webster

Today's article will focus on the third army value which is **RESPECT**. How we consider others reflects upon each of us, both personally and as a professional organization. Respect for yourself and others is a key component in the success of any organization.

The bottom line is apply the golden rule, treat others the way you want to be treated. By way of example there is an ongoing situation that could have been avoided if this Army value had been applied. I am referring to the graffiti in both the guard towers and the porto-lets.

Grffiti shows disrespect for

yourself and everyone else that has to look at it. It is also an embarrassment to the camp. As everyone must know by now we have an extremely high visibility mission and therefore attract a lot of visitors to include general officers. Our friends at KBR have cleaned the porto-lets in the LSA and are in the process of cleaning the rest. It is now up to the military to maintain.

If the graffiti reappears it will be necessary to establish a new detail to clean it off. If your battle buddy gets the urge to write or draw on the walls you need to redirect his or her energy in a more constructive

direction.

Thanks for all you do to make Camp Bucca a success.

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"All right, they're on our left, they're on our right, they're in front of us, they're behind us...they can't get away this time!"

- Chesty Puller when surrounded by eight enemy divisions during WWII.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### "COURAGE"

Webster defines courage as, "the quality of mind which enables man to encounter danger and difficulties with firmness." The military service member needs this, "quality of mind," to face and fight the enemy! The modern day U.S. warrior is adequately equipped with weaponry, clothing, and equipment. These provisions will never be properly managed apart from courage. Our military may train us to fight the enemy but courage is required to face the enemy.

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage. A great deal of talent is lost in this life for lack of courage.

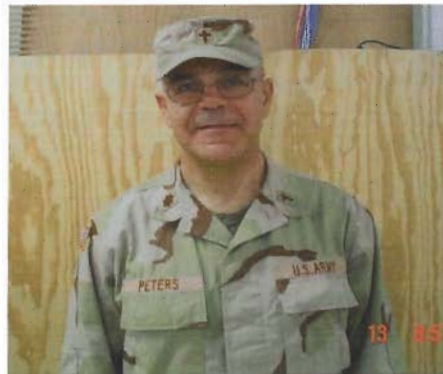
The perfect balance is one with courage on his right hand and faith on his left hand. The cure for fear is faith.

"I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."  
(Psalm 34:4)

This courage that comes from the Lord actually drives away fear!

"The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Please take note, I am regularly available to accept any care package items that you may receive and not need. These items are brought to the Goodwill Distribution Center that we run every week at the detainee visitation center. The Iraqi family members that come to Camp Bucca greatly



appreciate these items and it shows our American generosity to the local people.

God Bless!

Chaplain (Maj) Chuck Peters

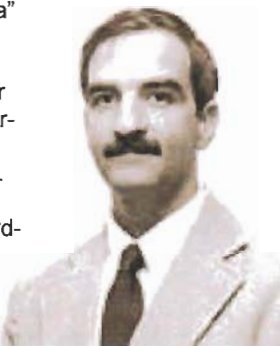
## A Tribute to Ronald Bucca by CPT Diana Stumpf, 105th MP BN

"Just another day at Camp Bucca" is a phrase we have all heard. But, where did the name Bucca come from? We don't have the typical war type name you may be used to hearing; such tough sounding titles like "Victory", "Anaconda" or "Marauder". But, make no mistake about it, the name of Bucca is as heroic and hard-charging as they come.

Ronald Bucca was a New York City Firefighter who was killed in the World Trade Centers attack of 9-11. He died as a Fire Marshal for the NYC Fire Department assigned as a member of Rescue 1, one of the most elite departments within the FDNY.

In addition to being a New York City Firefighter, Ronald Bucca was a certified nurse and a reserve member of the 3413th Military Intelligence Detachment, a peacetime subordinate unit of the 800th MP BDE.

The idea to name the internment facility outside of the Iraqi city of Um Qasr after a fallen New York City Firefighter was initiated by the first U.S. Army unit to take command of the facility. The idea was first proposed during mobilization preparations at the home station of the 800th MP BDE in Uniondale, N.Y. The Brigade Deputy Commander, COL Alan Ecke, also a retired member of NYFD, headed up



the efforts. The brigade checked with the widows of the men. They said that they would be pleased to have their husbands remembered in such a way.

When the brigade officially assumed command of what was a British Holding Area named "Freddy", on April 7th, 2003, the camp was renamed as Camp Bucca.

Ronald Bucca was a NYC Firefighter for over 23 years. He spent the last nine years of his career as a Fire Marshal. As part of his job he was also a member of the terrorist task force and was considered an anti-terrorism expert. He was nicknamed the "Flying Fireman" in 1986 after he fell from a tenement fire escape, spun around a cable strung through the backyard, and lived to tell the tale.

When the planes hit the towers on that fateful day, Ronald Bucca knew exactly what he was heading into. He called his wife, Eve, and told her that he was heading to the scene. He knew

that his squad, Rescue 1, was in the World Trade Center and he was going to join them inside.

"One of his subordinates told him that he didn't have to go in there, but he went anyway," states the BDE XO of the 800th MP BDE. "He died with the people from Rescue 1, all the guys that he loved."

Fire Marshall Bucca was on the 74th floor of the second tower when it collapsed. He was 47 years old at the time and left behind a legacy of service, sacrifice, and family.

Initially, the plan was to name all internment facilities and holding areas under the 800th MP BDE after NYC Firefighters. When it became apparent that there was no need for another full fledged facility, the brigade named a holding area at the time after firefighter Mark Whitford.

We have all made our own sacrifices to serve our nation in Iraq. However, the next time you use the words Camp Bucca, be sure and remember the ultimate sacrifice made by our namesake, Firefighter Ronald Bucca. His memory can continue to live on in honor and in the hearts of every soldier, sailor, airman, marine and civilian who has made a temporary home at Camp Bucca, Iraq.





## Area of Interest by MSG John Millan, 105th MP BN

### Um-Qasr Overview

This city is a small port community of about 35,000 residents located in the Basrah Province. Local people are almost exclusively Shia, though there is a tiny group of Sunni (less than 3%) and Wahabbi (less than 1%). The ethnicity of locals is primarily Shaddan (Marsh Arabs) and some Bedouin (Desert Nomads). The Shadan were particularly despised by Saddam Hussein and many were driven from their indigenous areas under his rule. Locals have ethnic and clan ties to many families in nearby areas of Kuwait. Because locals were oppressed by Saddam, they are therefore generally anti-Baathist and many residents took part in the rebellion against Saddam in 1991. Thus, the area was both oppressed and neglected by the central government in Baghdad.

The city was primarily a small fishing village with small vessels docking there up through the 1960's. Upon Saddam taking power, he realized the strategic importance of the town and dredged the channel to accommodate deep draft vessels. Today the port is Iraq's only deep water port facility. In the 1970's a naval facility was built at the port. It was damaged by long range artillery during the Iran-Iraq war, 1979-1988. The port was rebuilt after the war and again heavily damaged in the first Gulf War, 1990-1991, when the Kuwaiti

border was moved north to the edge of the channel and a berm was erected. During the first Gulf War, the naval facility at Um-Qasr was destroyed and was never rebuilt, as Iraq never had any significant naval capability. During the recent war, the port was again damaged by fighting. Coalition forces have restored the port to accommodate deep draft vessels, though super tankers can not navigate into the channel. These vessels tie up in the Persian Gulf and pipe oil in and out of the port through boom pipes.



Currently, most locals are dependent on the port either directly or indirectly for economic support. Locals also farm and earn a living from agrarian means. The education level is low in comparison with other areas of Iraq. There are no universities in the area, though there is a university in Basrah, 25 miles to the north. The local population has generally been pro-coalition because

public work services, water, sewer and in particular power, have been restored.

### Basrah Overview

Basrah is the second largest city in Iraq and a principal port on the Shatt al Arab waterway. The current population is estimated to be 415,000. The city is the cultural and economic center for the region and has a branch campus of the Baghdad University. Starting in 1948, many oil fields and refineries were built in and around the city. The city is an export point for petroleum, grain, and wool and many of Iraq's imported products enter through Basrah's docks. There are also two major airports in the region, Maqil Airfield (light aircraft) and Basrah International. The city was the scene of uprising against Saddam in the 1991 rebellion. The rebellion was not supported by the coalition and suffered under Saddam as a result. The people are predominantly Shiite and were never supportive of Saddam. However, they were reluctant to support the coalition after the 1991 incidents. The city is currently HQ for UK forces in Iraq, the main garrison of which is located at Basrah Airport. The city is primarily pro-coalition but does house a small number of Sadr and Baathist loyalists. The coalition has worked to improve city services.

## Bucca Briefs by SPC Charles Greer, 105th MP BN

### SILENT VISITORS

They came in single file, about 50 of them. Silent ambassadors, to tell us who they were. They moved at a slow pace, passing us for over 20 minutes. Some walked, while others pushed their wheelchairs as best they could. Some were helped along on crutches by their wives or sweethearts. They were escorted front and rear by U.S. Marines in dress blue uniform. I have never seen prouder Marines. The Amputee Ward from Walter Reed Army Medical Center visited the Pentagon today. I was there.

Some wore looks of resolution, pride, or dignity. Many had prosthetic devices where limbs used to be. All of them wore looks of surprise. We, the 26,000 employees of the Pentagon, lined both sides of the A ring (the inner ring of the Pentagon) to watch them pass and welcome them with thunderous applause. Half a mile they walked through a gauntlet of grateful fellow citizens two and three deep, who reached out to shake the hands of the remaining good arms, or grasp the remaining fingers of hands that have given ultimate service. They walked through us to the main concourse, where they were met by the Army Band and color guard playing marshal music for them, and where the mall was filled with additional people who swelled the applause. Many of us just called out loudly, Thank You, because we didn't know what else could be said; thank you for your service to us. The applause never stopped.

None of them spoke. They just cried.

So did we.

It was the closest I have been to Christmas in a long time.

Chaplain (LTG) George Patrick  
United States Corps of Chaplains  
Director

**Iraqi Soldiers Awarded  
ARCOM for Heroism**  
By SSG Fred Minnick Army  
News Service January  
07, 2005

MOSUL, Iraq - Two Iraqi National Guard soldiers were awarded the Army Commendation Medal Jan. 3 for their heroic acts after a suicide bomber attacked the Forward Operating Base Marez dining facility in southwest Mosul Dec. 21. The two Iraqis saved the life of an American soldier suffering severe wounds and carried several other wounded to safety.

"The attack of December 21 was not only intended to take lives, it was intended to divide two nations," said Brig. Gen. Carter Ham, who awarded the ARCOMs. "The actions taken by these ING soldiers indicate clearly that American Soldiers and the Iraqi soldiers are one. We are very grateful for your brave actions that day."

The Iraqis were eating lunch with their ING and U.S. comrades when the explosion occurred. Both of the Iraqi soldiers were blown from their seats by the blast, which they described as, "very powerful, lots of noise and heat." They were both dazed. One of them could only hear a loud ringing sound in his ears. The other couldn't believe his eyes - every-

where he looked people were gasping for air or bleeding profusely.

Before the two Iraqis lay a helpless American soldier, who fell to the ground after staggering across the smoke-filled mess hall. They couldn't understand his words, they saw the wound above his knee and realized the American's life was in danger.

"Recognizing the soldier's injury as potentially life-threatening, the two ING soldiers employed first aid techniques learned during recent training with U.S. Special Forces and used their belts to apply a tourniquet to the U.S. Soldier's leg to stop the bleeding, and then moved the Soldier out of the danger area," said Maj. Jim Harrell, a Multi-National Forces spokesman in Mosul.

They moved the Soldier to a MEDEVAC vehicle using a two-man litter carry. After they hoisted the Soldier in the truck, the two Iraqis - one an officer, the other an NCO - ran back to the facility and began treating the other wounded, without regard for their own safety.

Harrell said the ING soldiers, with their American partners, rendered first aid to two very seriously wounded comrades from their unit and at least five other U.S. and ING Soldiers, applying field dressings and moving the wounded by litter and buddy-carry to evacuation vehicles.

*"...the two Iraqis saved the  
life of an American  
soldier..."*

**Now Here!!****TAE-BO**

Monday, Weds, Friday @ 1800 hrs Wednesday &amp; Sunday @

**Classes**

2000hrs

**Country Line Dancing**

Monday &amp; Friday @ 1900 hrs

**Club Night**

Saturday @ 2100 hrs

**Camp Specials**

Kodak Advantix 75% OFF

High definition, while supplies last

Elta Fans (220 Volts) 50% OFF




12 Bottles, 500– 600 ml


\$9.00 per case

**WEATHER**


19 January

 Partly Cloudy High 66 Low 42 10% Chance or Precipitation


20 January

 Sunny High 66 Low 42 0% Chance or Precipitation


21 January

 Partly Cloudy High 67 Low 44 0% Chance or Precipitation


22 January

 Rainy High 61 Low 45 60% Chance or Precipitation

23 January

 Partly Cloudy High 59 Low 41 20% Chance or Precipitation

24 January

 Sunny High 61 Low 41 0% Chance or Precipitation
**English-Arabic**

Greeting salaam ali-kam

Come Here ta al ih na

Goodbye ma salma

Stay Here ebqa ihna

Thank you shukran

Be Quiet us kut

Please afwan

Form Line shek kel khut

Stop qif

Show Me war-ree-nee



Help Me sa-id-nee

Yes e-naam

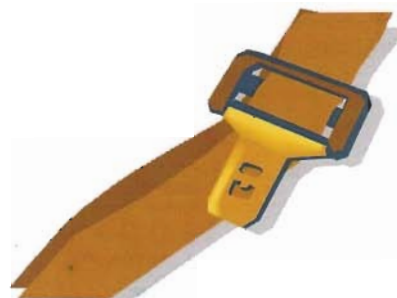
No la-laa

Here ih-na

There ih-nak

**Safety Corner by LT Sy Rice, 105th MP BN****Safety is everyone's business!**

1. No parking in the area across the road from the DFAC. No vehicles can be parked in the designated no parking area that has been clearly marked off. It is designated by a rope fence and no parking signs.
2. Personnel at Camp Bucca are not authorized to operate any of the ATV or gator/ranger vehicles if they have not been through the class and received a license.
3. Seat belts are required at all times and in all vehicles.
4. Follow the posted speed limits.
5. There will be absolutely no vehicle traffic within the living areas.
6. Burn barrels are a fire hazard; no personal fires within the living areas.
7. Drivers are **required** to stop at stop signs!





# Farewell and Greetings to Camp Bucca by the Bucca Beacon Staff

This month is marking a major transition period for all of Camp Bucca. Most of the units that have been here for up to a year are heading home. In return, we are receiving multiple units brand new to our Camp. If only the first inhabitants of Camp Bucca could see what it has become! Wouldn't they be amazed by how much this place has grown? Gone are the troops that remember barbed wire and sand filled tents. New residents know only individual pods, an impressive gym, and hard site detainee buildings just to name a few improvements. In order to say farewell to all of our outgoing units and welcome our new comrades, the Bucca Beacon staff has decided to list all of the changes right here!

## B Btry, 1/107th FA BN

The 125 soldiers of the 107th arrived at Camp Bucca on 18 December 2003 from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They have performed a wide variety of missions. Primarily, they are one of many National Guard Field Artillery units that transitioned to a Military Police mission for their deployment. After working in detention operations

at the Internment Facility, the 107th FA recently turned over their mission to the 380 members of the **USAF 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces**



**Squadron.** All on Camp Bucca have already become quite familiar with seeing the bright blue of our Air Force comrades. The 732nd has a six month mission at Camp Bucca and will fill a dual role while here. The majority of the unit will serve at the Internment Facility as detainee guards. However, two platoons will take on the mission of Force Protection providing our perimeter security and area security patrols. Please make our USAF airmen feel welcome as they are a vital part of our team here at Camp Bucca.

## 172nd FA BN

The 172nd FA BN arrived at Camp Bucca from their National Guard home in New Hampshire on December of 2003. The soldiers of the 172nd, currently 172 strong, have been responsible for maintaining the security of Camp Bucca since their arrival. They have performed the ASO patrols that have kept all of us secure in the knowledge that the insurgency would not have an easy time approaching our base. In addition, the 172nd provided all of the convoy security for hundreds of convoys leaving Camp Bucca.

Many of their soldiers made multiple trips on the dangerous roads from here to Baghdad while transporting hundreds of detainees. The battery will be leaving for Kuwait, mission complete, on Friday, 21 January 2005. The 172nd has conducted their relief in place not only with the two platoons from the USAF but, also with two platoons from our newest FA unit, **B Btry, 2/111th FA BN** from the Virginia National Guard. The 111th FA currently has two platoon at Camp Bucca and two that are filling critically short positions at the internment facility in Baghdad.

## 152nd FA

The 152nd is a National Guard unit out of Maine that arrived at Camp Bucca on 23 Sep 2004 after spending six months at Abu Ghraib prison. The 152nd provided vital additional support at the Internment Facility at a time when the detainee population grew faster than the guard force. On or about the 22nd of January the 152nd mission will be officially complete as they will also transfer authority to the **732nd ESFS**.

## A Co., 1/185th AR

The 185th AR is also a National Guard unit, this one a combination of soldiers from Fort Lewis, Washington and Corona, California. The 185th arrived at Camp Bucca on 22 July 2004 and has been instrumental in the force protection mission, working side by side with soldier from the 172nd FA. They also provided support for the multiple convoys to and from Baghdad. Following the 172nd, the 185th is transferring its mission to the two platoon from the **732nd ESFS** and two platoons from the 111th FA.

## C Btry, 3/178th FA

The 178th AR is a National Guard unit which hails from the city of Hartsville, South Carolina. The unit arrived at Camp Bucca in August of 2004. Prior to bunking down at our little FOB, the 178th was based out of Camp Azzubayr, beginning in March 2004. The 178th mission is to provide assistance for convoys traveling along MSR Tampa. They are a safe haven for any break downs during convoys and provide medivac and QRF assistance. The routes traveled by our convoys would have experienced much greater potential for danger had it not been for the careful watchfulness of the members of the 178th. The unit will be transferring authority for its critical mission to the **56th Brigade Combat Team** sometime around the 2nd of February, 2005.

## 376th Finance Detachment

The small group of soldiers within the 376th Finance Detachment began their Iraq mission from their Reserve center in Warsaw, Wisconsin. Any soldier who has experienced a pay problem will know the quick, competent response of this small group of dedicated Finance soldiers. They

provided financial operations not only for soldiers at Camp Bucca but, also those in Basrah and Navstar and to all of our civilian comrades. They opened the Camp Bucca finance office on 10 April 2004 after arriving in theater in February of 2004. The 376th has been replaced by the **747th Finance Det.**, from Newton, Massachusetts, yet another National Guard unit. The TOA just occurred on 15 January 2005.

## 329th Postal Company

Our hard working postal staff are all members of the Army Reserves based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The very small unit arrived at Camp Bucca during the last week of February, 2004. Their mission has been to ensure that all personnel, both soldiers and civilians, stationed at Camp Bucca not only received all mail sent to them, but were also able to send mail home using the best postal supplies offered. They provided all of this in addition to offering quite possibly the friendliest service in all of Iraq! The Postal Det. has an extinguished record of service; they served in Bosnia in 2002 and Afghanistan in 2003 before arriving in Iraq. The **888th Postal Company** will be our new postal unit beginning the first week in March.

## 319th Signal Company

No military unit can survive without effective communication, which is just what the 319th Signal from the USAR out of Dublin, California delivered ever since their arrival to Camp Bucca on 28 March 2004. They have maintained effective communications systems both in Iraq and Kuwait supporting CFLCC, CJTF-7 and CENTCOM units. In addition to this impressive level of mission responsibility, the soldiers of the 319th can be well remembered for regular barbeque extravaganzas! After a job well done, the 319th Signal will be replaced by the **54th Signal Company**.

## 1/102nd FA BN

Although it will be hard to fill the boots of our two man Garrison Command, MAJ White and CW2 Ferrari, the 27 soldiers of the 102nd FA are going to do their best! The 102nd will soon take on all the garrison missions of running Camp Bucca to include the new dining facility scheduled to be completed on 30 January 2005. The 102nd FA is from the National Guard of Massachusetts and has a large portion of their unit currently filling garrison support missions at Abu Ghraib as well.

For those who are heading home, we thank you for your honorable service and your part in making Camp Bucca what it is today. For personnel just arriving, welcome. We are all now a combined team that will form the future of our camp.



**THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
OF CAMP BUCCA, IRAQ**

Camp Bucca, Iraq

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**We welcome your  
comments, suggestions, or  
assistance! Please see us  
at Building 2 to become  
part of the team!**

**Proper order and discipline within a military organization enables Leaders to instill in soldiers values and the ability to act maturely and respectful when executing the Army's mission. Let's look at what happens when order and discipline is compromised:**

13 JAN 2005

SPC received a field grade Article 15 and was reduced to PFC for failing to obey a general order.

**Policy On Lost Weapons Accountability:**

There is nothing more serious in a war time environment than losing accountability of your individual weapon. Unfortunately there have been too many instances of Camp Bucca personnel losing accountability of assigned weapons over the past two months. Effective immediately, any soldier assigned to the 105th MP BN losing accountability of their weapon is subject to UCMJ action and a Company grade ART-15. This is also the recommended action for any soldier / airmen stationed at Camp Bucca where UCMJ authority does not rest with the 105th MP BN. Secure your weapon at all times to avoid UCMJ action.

## Let the Good Times Roll! ("The Back Page" will return next issue!)

A little slice of home-town America has landed at Camp Bucca! On 12 Jan 05 the much awaited Subway sandwich shop and the Green Bean Coffee shop opened next to the basketball courts. After many weeks of looking at a vacant trailer, the residents of Camp Bucca readily visited the two AAFES run concessionaires.

SPC Dale of the 105th MP BN commented what most Bucca personnel probably felt after visiting Subway, "For a brief moment, I

actually felt like I was home."

The prices for the sandwiches are indeed reminiscent of home. A six inch Turkey Club will cost you \$3.75 while a foot long meatball is \$5.50. The first few days did cause some concern for soldiers getting raw bacon on their sandwiches but, the hard working staff is improving their skills and services daily. The AAFES personnel that provide our Subway service hail from a variety of countries to include India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

The Camp Bucca Subway shop is open seven days a week from 1000-2100.

Now if sandwiches do not strike your fancy, you can walk next door and enjoy the creations of the Green Bean Coffee Shop. The Green Bean offers all the great eclectic caffeine concoctions served at any true coffee shop back home. If you do visit the establishment, be prepared to pay for your tastes, the varied menu includes a single cappuccino for \$2.50 with



*SSG Grogan of the 172nd FA places his Green Bean*

the most expensive item on the menu going for \$4.50 if a Triple Smoothie Frappe is what excites you!

The Green Bean enjoys the distinction of being the first 24-hour concessionaire on Camp Bucca. Soldiers from the 172nd FA, four days from leaving for home commented that "it would have been great to get this place sooner even though the prices are a little high."

So for all personnel on Camp Bucca, break out the check book and enjoy a little piece of home. Let the good times roll!



*Soldiers line up to enjoy opening day of the Subway*